GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2263
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2002
NORMS FOR PRESERVATION OF FOOD PRODUCED THROUGH BIO-TECHNOLOGY
GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala propose to fix norms for bio-agriculture, bio-fertilisers and bio-pesticides for the preservation of food produced through bio-technology;

(b) if so, the time by which these norms would be notified;

(c) whether the Government are looking into setting up of reliable laboratories for preservation of foodstuffs produced through bio-technology; and

(d) if so, the time by which these laboratories would start functioning?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): The Government of Kerala have informed that for the use of bio-manure, it is proposed to get the products of different units tested by Kerala Agricultural Universityfor nutrient value. Bio-pesticides come under the purview of Central Insecticides Act. A manufacturing licence is only issued after obtaining registration from Central Insecticides Board. No standard/specification have been fixed for bio-fertilisers because they do not come under the purview of the Fertiliser Control Order.

(c) & (d) The Department of Bio-Technology assesses the bio-safety of foods produced through bio-technology. The techniques for preservation of foodstuffs produced through bio-technology are broadly akin to that of their conventional counter parts.